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DE RUEHC #0381 0352119
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 042110Z FEB 09
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 3496
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2630
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 9830
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 7644
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 6601

UNCLAS STATE 010381

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAID](#) [ECIN](#) [PREL](#) [ASEAN](#)
SUBJECT: POST CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ASEAN RELATED ISSUES

REF: 08 STATE 123211

¶1. (U) This is an ACTION REQUEST for all addressees. See para 4.

¶2. (SBU) The role of regional and multilateral institutions in Asia continues to evolve and incrementally increase in importance. USG interaction with ASEAN on both policy and programs has expanded notably over the past several years and Department expects these trends to continue now that the ASEAN Charter came into force in December 2008. Other pan-Asian and trans-Pacific fora in the region, including ASEAN 3, ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC), and the East Asia Summit (EAS), are being built to meet a growing desire for a regional community, despite their overlapping agendas.

¶3. Ongoing reporting from posts on ASEAN and the development of broader regional architecture is welcome and particularly useful and timely in planning how the United States should engage with the region and assessing our effectiveness. Specific issues of interest regarding ASEAN, other regional organizations, and host government approaches to the emerging regional architecture are described in reftel. Department plans to update this list of topics periodically as circumstances evolve. ASEAN and related documents that provide background on regional issues can be accessed via the State Department Intranet website <http://eap.state.gov/EAPOffices/RSP/EAPRSP1.c> fm and on the internet at <http://www.asean-us-partnership.org/>.)

¶4. (U) Department requests addressees to identify one officer to act as a point of contact on ASEAN and related regional issues. This person would ideally play a role in coordinating post reporting on ASEAN and regional architecture topics. Please transmit post's POC information by telegram slugged for EAP/RSP. Responses by February 12 will be most helpful.
CLINTON